

Louis O. Hummer, of Eskridge, Kansas, is again upon the stage of journalism with a monthly which he calls *Free Discussion*. He has something to say about calling women to preach, and has something to say about an "unfettered ministry." That is the kind of ministry we have. We have no fetters except the New Testament. We have not progressed quite enough yet to elect "deaconesses," a gospel order, and encourage them to exhort in things pertaining to righteousness.

By an oversight we printed "Dear Sir" at the head of brother Bashor's article in this number.

A movement is on foot to make October 12 a day of national Thanksgiving throughout the countries of America. It is the anniversary of the discovery of America. We heartily wish that Thanksgiving Day might be brought forward in the year, not only because it is now too near Christmas, but because it is too late as respects the harvest season in this country. The middle of October is a very suitable time for the festival.—CHURCHMAN.

We desire to sign this petition and pass it to our neighbors.

Here is a question that I would like to have answered through the paper, in order to satisfy myself and others, as the question was put to me and I could not answer to my own, and others. The question is, who is or who was Melchizedec, spoken of in Hebrews, Exodus, and Genesis. The question is open for any or all who wish to answer.

A. A. TOBIAS.

New Lebanon, Ohio.

#### COQUILLE CITY, OREGON.

I was glad when I saw in the *EVANGELIST*, reports from brother B. G. Frederick and the other brethren of San Joaquin County, California. I remember with the greatest pleasure the Camp-meeting held there; also the soul reviving sermons that Brother Bashor preached when he visited this country.

S. G. D. ANDERSON.

#### Please Don't.

DEAR EVANGELIST: Please stop the press and say for me to the brethren who write me, to please to not use "Rev." or "Elder," nor any other title when they address me.

I have received a number of letters of inquiry lately—two yesterday from Virginia—in regard to the reinstatement of disowned members here, and in regard to the resolution adopted. Some brethren hope they see a union of the Brethren and the German Baptists. In the resolutions, they see the Gospel alone platform, on which, they think, all could unite. It would seem so.

S. M. MINNICH.

Andrews, Ind., March 6.

In Greenland there are 7,000 Esquimaux converts under the fostering care of the Danish mission society. The same body has charge of a mission in Northern India.

There are in Italy some 300 churches and mission stations of the evangelical order, and it is estimated that 10,000 of the members have been converted from Roman Catholicism.

#### Cambria County Items.

On Saturday evening January the 23rd, brother Brown, of Congress, Ohio, commenced preaching at Vinco, Pa. Meeting each evening and on Sunday morning and evening until February the 7th. Had large congregations and good meetings. During this time, Bro. Brown preached seventeen sermons. Shunned not to declare the truth, taking for his guide Paul's advice to Timothy: 2 Tim. 4 & 2. On Sunday evening Feb. 7th the meeting was moved to the Pike meeting house and continued until the evening of the 14th. In all brother Brown preached twenty-eight good gospel sermons. Two were baptized and others were almost persuaded to enlist as soldiers for Christ. On Tuesday, brother Brown started home and wife and I attended the funeral of brother Findly of Benshoff Hill. Sudden death indeed. Brother Gochnour preached the funeral sermon.

As an item of news I here take the liberty to say that the church here has called brother J. W. Smouse, of Smicksburgh, Pa., to serve as pastor for one year.

STEPHEN HILDEBRAND.  
Mineral Point, Pa.

#### To Whom It May Concern.

(Continued from last week.)

Members of other denominations seemed to appreciate the labors that were being put forth, and gave us a helping hand, especially those of the Disciple and Methodist churches, rendered us service.

As this was almost the first effort by the brethren, at Flora the people were anxious to hear our doctrine, and creed (if we had any).

Our doctrine being the word of God, and our creed the same the brother made no side issues, but preached the word in a straight forward manner, "proving all things," and asking the people to "hold fast to that which is good."

Before closing the meetings, Bro. Ridenour organized the "Brethren Church at Flora, Ind.," Bro. A. B. Smith was chosen as secretary. The church chose Bro. Ridenour as its pastor, and obtained his consent, to care for them in the way of preaching or provide a substitute; he also promised to visit them in "the Spring" and hold another meeting. May the Lord crown his labors with success is my prayer.

Closed the meetings Feb. 3rd, with 13 accessions, and 4 more have expressed their desire since to come also. The Lord bless them, for their good resolutions. We predict a glorious future for the church at Flora.

On Thursday morning, Bro. Ridenour, and my wife and myself, boarded the train at Flora, for Moran, where we were met by Bro. J. B. Metzger, and taken home.

The Bro. preached for us at Edna Mills, Thursday evening, and continued over the following Sunday, and then moved to Pleasant Hill chapel, about nine miles distant.

After the morning meeting the weather turned warm, and a general thaw was the result; the roads became almost impassible, and the meeting was closed, indefinitely, without any accessions.

Their pastor, Bro. Swihart, will resume the meetings, in the

near future; hope the Lord will crown his labors, there and elsewhere, with success.

On the morning of the 16th inst., we (my wife and myself) took the parting hand of friends and said, good-by. Boarded the train at Mulberry, and started for Ashland College. Lest I be too lengthy, I will close just where I am, and perhaps in the near future, I may give an account of my journey to Ashland, and also of Ashland College.

MARTIN SHIVELY.

Ashland, Ohio.

#### Field Echoes.

I got my 9 upside down in No. 8, relative to our meeting in Milford. Bro. Editor: please say in an "Editorial Note" to the churches of N. Indiana and S. Michigan that they are invited to represent by delegates in Milford, Ind., Tuesday March 9th, for the purpose of formulating a plan to do Mission work among said churches. I have also applied the old proverb to myself "Physician heal thyself" in that essay item referred to by our worthy editor, hence, enclose one, "Precious Counsel". Will do better in the future: won't you brethren?

We organized a Brethren Church in Nappanee, Ind., today with 6 members (I haven't got 9 upside down this time, wish I had.) But they are an excellent beginning. Among them are Bro. Guilford Leslie and wife. He, with Bro. Early is engaged in the hardware business. We hope to do more, but the roads and weather is much against it. This will be a hard field in which to work at present from other considerations which space forbids to specify. The influence of our little band here is such that it must tell in the future and perhaps we can see its power developed before the meeting closes.

Bro. Peter Stuckman a progressive minister yet unidentified with the G. B. brethren has attended some of our meetings. He fellowships us and closed the services with an earnest prayer to God for our success, which is not in harmony with the "ministry" you know. Bro. S. is a good man with a power of talent that is needed so badly in the Brethren Church. If we were inclined to draft our soldiers into service he would head the list, but we ask for volunteers hence say, Bro. Peter, will you not volunteer to defend the Gospel only, and be one of the northern lights in the pioneer corps of Jesus the captain of our salvation? I know by experience that when the threshold is crossed and we have appeared before the world with a perfect Gospel, only as conditions of pardon, conscience in sweetened and a much greater amount of good can be done in less time and without as much effort. Brother unwrap that talent covered over with defunct usages, beautify it with gospel love. Let life be a blessing to the many. It is too short and precious to be wasted in the "striving about words to no profit." Brethren, may we all be satisfied with the "wholesome words of the Lord Jesus." For if any consent not to them he is proud, see 1 Tim. 6: 3-4, and we don't want it to get among us. This soul-pride is a fatal disease. It begets arrogance, selfishness and a disposition to look down

upon honest souls who may differ with us in a way that says "I thank God that I am better than other men."

R. F. MALLOTT.

Nappanee, Ind., Feb. 25th.

#### Still in the Miami Valley.

I did not get away as soon as I expected. I am well pleased with the prospects of the church in and around Dayton. The Brethren seem to take hold of things with a determination to do a good work for Jesus. I was at the services at the Dayton Church on the evening of the 18th, inst., and for the first time, heard Bro. Jas. A. Ridenour preach. I think all felt it was good to be there.

I visited the Soldier's Home, and they have just had an appropriation of about three hundred thousand dollars. It takes about one hundred cows to furnish the milk for the Home. A part is furnished by Bro. Abe. Beeghly. The brother is known as a special friend of the preachers and he conducted me through the Home, and to him and his pleasant family together with all others that have entertained me so kindly, I will say, may the Lord bless them abundantly.

Hope that I shall be able to give our readers some news from the Sunay South by and by.

Brethren, let us labor, watch and pray and the mists will clear away, and then we can reap one reward that is in reserve for them that love and obey the Blessed Master. Yours in hope of eternal life. Will add that the *EVANGELIST* meets with general favor with its readers so far as my knowledge extends.

R. K. BINKLEY

Harrisburgh, Ohio.

#### Trans Missouri Flashes.

At this date, Feb. 25, I am still continuing meetings near Mulvane, Kans. Will close on Sunday, 28.

Weather is fine and farmers are plowing.

Our brethren are mostly farmers and in a state which in 1885 raised over two hundred million bushels of corn, as Kansas did, they should be able to pay at least \$1 per member to the Mission fund.

In my "open letter" to J. B. Lair, some one got sentences terribly mixed. Hope the readers will be able to place the part sentences where they belong.

Week before last, we bade adieu to our beloved U. S. A. for a little while, and visited the Indian Territory. It is indeed a beautiful country and its fertile soil should be tilled.

How cheering are those soul-stirring news from Indiana. Wish some of those Ind. revivalists were rich enough to come to Kansas and gather in from sin the hardened sinners of these western prairies.

God will only do for us what we can not do ourselves.

Christianity in its bearing upon intemperance and all other evils means prohibition.

Men may be intemperate and never taste a drop of whiskey and many of them are.

The church at Mulvane, Kans., numbers about 13 members, but is without a resident minister. Had they an efficient minister I believe there could be a large congregation gathered here.

This church was organized by Elders Hixson and Harader and

every member in it except two would have to be rebaptized did they wish to unite with a certain other church. They are good brethren and sisters all the same.

From here we go to Montana.

W. J. H. BAUMAN.

#### RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE

A clergyman near Philadelphia being disturbed in the singing of the doxology by the men putting on their overcoats, quietly said: "Now that you have your overcoats on we will sing the doxology over again."

Rev. T. H. Candor, who has been a missionary in Bogota, S. A., for nearly four years, has returned with his wife and child to his home in Aledo, Ill. He has come home to have a surgical operation performed on his eyes, which have been failing him for some time.

There are in Massachusetts 294 Baptist churches. These churches received 2,376 additions by baptism on profession of faith, an average of nearly nine each. That seems like a very good number. But in 102 churches there was not a single baptism, in 20 only one each, in 23 only two each, and in 17 only three each.

A large excursion of Quakers from the United States are now in the City of Mexico, and as part of their errand a permanent Quaker Mission will be established in that city. Among the party are some prominent members of the Society of Friends in Chicago. Editor Pritchard of the *Christian Worker* is one of them.

The Emperor of China has formally invited the Pope to open direct relations between the Holy See and the Chinese Empire by the establishment of a Papal embassy at Peking. It is believed that this step is taken with the view of lessening the great influence now enjoyed by France in her capacity as the Catholic protectorate in the extreme Orient.

The Florida Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church is quite a small conference, having only, according to last year's report, forty-one effective ministers and 4,630 members and probationers: but it is large enough, it seems, to divide. Not that it covers too large a territory, but because it happens to be a mixed conference, and the white preachers cannot abide association with colored preachers; this is the reason it divides itself.

The ancient Hindoo faith has met with a severe shock. It is an article of faith with the Hindoos that the sacred city of Benares cannot be shaken by an earthquake, because it does not rest on the earth at all, but upon the back of a tortoise. The earthquake which recently visited Hindoostan gave Benares a good shaking up, and many rickety buildings came tumbling to the ground. Thereupon the Mohammedans laughed and the Hindoos were wroth, as the learned Brahmins openly derided the notion that the city would be disturbed. Hindoostan itself has received a telling blow.

#### Married.

GLENNY-LICHTY—Tuesday Feb. 23, 1886, at the residence of the bride's parents three miles south of Waterloo, Iowa, Miss Ella N. Lichty to Mr. A. E. Glenny, both of Black Hawk county. Marriage ceremony performed by Rev. S. H. Bashor.